



**Date:** November 22, 2011

**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager  
**Through:** Theodore L. Voorhees, Deputy City Manager  
**From:** Rhonda B. Parker, Director, Parks and Recreation  
**Subject:** Acceptance of 2012 USTA Facility Grant for Rock Quarry Park

### **Executive Summary**

In November 2011, the United States Tennis Association (USTA) awarded a Facility grant to the City of Durham Parks and Recreation Department. The grant of \$45,000.00 will assist with funding for the renovation of eight (8) tennis courts and accessible parking spots and walkway at Rock Quarry Park.

### **Recommendation**

The Administration recommends that the City Council adopt an ordinance amending the General Capital Improvement Project Ordinance, FY 2011-12, as amended, the same being Ordinance #14139 for the purpose of appropriating the 2012 United States Tennis Association Facility Grant of \$45,000, and adopt a resolution accepting the grant and authorize the City Manager to execute the grant agreement.

### **Background**

Durham Parks and Recreation (DPR) began the USTA Facility Grant application process in early 2011 and was invited to submit a formal application for funding in September, 2011. Funding from the USTA will supplement previously appropriated funding for tennis court renovations allowing the City to apply savings to additional projects.

DPR has a growing tennis program and is quickly becoming a popular location for regional tournaments. Registration in both adult and junior tennis has increased for the past several years by more than 10%. DPR began offering QuickStart Tennis for children ages 5-8 in the early spring of 2011. The Quick Start program is very popular and in high demand. In September 2011 DPR hosted the USTA-sanctioned North Carolina Tennis Association's Mixed Doubles Tournament. This four-day event included 1200 athletes and approximately 4,000 spectators visiting Durham. DPR will host this tournament again in September, 2012.

DPR intends to increase the number of tournament opportunities it offers to the region. In order to accomplish this goal, DPR needs not only to renovate its facilities but also make them more aesthetically pleasing. The Rock Quarry Tennis Facility was constructed in 1977 and last resurfaced in 1997. The Rock Quarry facility has been closed to league play for youth and adults for over two years. Several of the courts have deteriorated to the point that water pooled on the courts, and several courts had seriously cracked surfaces, and those courts were closed to all play. The courts at Rock Quarry without safety hazards have

remained open for public use. The City of Durham is currently in process of a full renovation of the Rock Quarry Tennis Facility, including a sub-base, new asphalt surface course and color coating, new sleeves and net posts, and new perimeter black vinyl coated chain link fencing. The renovation will include improvements in ADA compliance. Color coating will include Quick Start lines allowing this new program to expand. We are using a “green” surfacing method that entails grinding up the old asphalt surface in place, then compacting it and using it for the new sub-base; thus no material has to be taken off-site to the landfill.

#### **Issues/Analysis**

Expenditures for this project are to be reimbursed up to the \$45,000 award amount. That amount will supplement the existing re-surfacing project budget so that more work can be done on other tennis courts in the City system.

#### **Alternatives**

The City Council could choose not to adopt the proposed grant project ordinance; DPR would not accept the grant from USTA for the renovation of the tennis facilities at Rock Quarry Park.

#### **Financial Impact**

The grant for \$45,000 does not require a match. There is no known negative financial impact to receiving this grant.

#### **Attachments:**

General Capital Improvement Project Ordinance amendment  
Grant project resolution  
Award letter from United States Tennis Association.